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Dkt. 0575/62683/JPW/ALB 5-16-02

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

David Pinsky, David Stern, and Shi-Fang Yan

U.S. Serial No.:

09/648,389

Examiner: S.L. Chen

Filed

August 25, 2000

Art Unit: 1632

For

METHODS FOR SUPPRESSING EARLY GROWTH RESPONSE-1 PROTEIN (EGR-1) TO REDUCE

VASCULAR INJURY IN A SUBJECT

1185 Avenue of the Americas New York, New York 10036 April 29, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

## COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO MARCH 28, 2002 OFFICE ACTION 1600/2900

This Communication is submitted in response to a March 28, 2002 Office Action issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the March 28, 2002 Office Action is due April 28, 2002. However, since March 28, 2002 falls on a Sunday, a response filed on the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or Federal Holiday, i.e. Monday April 29, 2002, is considered timely under 37 C.F.R. §1.7. Accordingly, this Communication is being timely filed.

## Restriction Requirement Under 35 U.S.C. §121

The Examiner required restriction to one of the allegedly distinct inventions under 35 U.S.C. §121 as follows:

I. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-14, 16-19, 21-25, and 27, allegedly